

BRIDGES

FAVOURITE PLACE

A few laps on the speeding skating oval sharpen the senses **P. 5**

SHARP EATS

Vertical farming may sprout micro greens for the masses **P. 22**

WINE WORLD

What happens when you chill a Beach House in a snowbank? **P. 23**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2014

A STARPHOENIX COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

A TEACHER ON THEIR SIDE

CHANDRA MCIVOR
IS ADMIRER FOR HER
SUPPORT OF STUDENTS'
SEXUAL IDENTITY **P. 6**



FREE

INVENTORY

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See Howitz Chives (from) Chantelle Moynihan, Chantelle Moore and Zena Spornovska at the Montreal skating rink. Moynihan is a BRIDGES PHOTO BY MICHELLE BERS

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MY FAVOURITE PLACE PG. 5



Justin Phillips's favourite place to stay active in the winter is the Concorda Downey Speed Skating Club. #BRIDGESPhoto by MICHELLE BERS

BRIDGES COVER PHOTO BY MICHELLE BERS

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IN THE CITY

JANUARY 12, 2014 — 10:51 A.M.

Dashing through the snow



Alynn Jensen, Garrett Schmitt and their daughter Bailey Schmitt spent Sunday morning cross-country skiing in Arden Park. Warmer temperatures have moved into the city and are expected to remain through the weekend. **STARS PHOTO BY MICHAEL BIRN**

YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE

Bridges wants to hear about your favourite place in Saskatoon. Email bridges@thestarphoenix.com

#CLARENCE DOWNEY SPEED SKATING OVAL

Feeling the burn in the freezing cold



Justin McFlerrie's favourite place to stay active in the winter is the speed skating oval. BRIDGES PHOTO BY MICHELLE HEND

By Sean Trembath

Justin McFlerrie spent years as a cross-country endurance runner, but a foot injury made it too painful to run for any extended period. Originally from Saskatoon, he is now months away from completing a PhD in English from Montreal's McGill University. He has been back in Saskatoon for more than a year, acting as a visiting scholar at the University of Saskatchewan.

The Clarence Downey Speed Skating Oval gives McFlerrie a chance to get his cardio fix without thrashing his tamping. It's his favourite place in the city.

Q: Why did you start working out at the oval?

A: I've got a metal plate in my foot now, and I needed something that was similar to the distance running, but without the impact. What I really missed about running was that feeling of your lungs burning and you're gasping for breath. This speed skating oval is a place I can go and get that feeling, but without the impact on my foot.

Q: Does the atmosphere of the oval add to the experience?

A: Yeah. It's lined with these really old, mature trees. It's a really pretty little corner of Saskatoon.

Q: Is there any sort of social aspect to exercising there?

A: I actually started going with a group of friends I worked with. Sometimes I'll go with a mug of coffee or hot chocolate and just laze skate with my friends.

Q: Is it frustrating to be able to feel the Saskatoon's fluctuating weather?

A: No, actually. I like it when it's mild, but I also kind of get a weird, sick pleasure when it's really cold. I've gone out when it's minus 35 or minus 50. You dress in layers, like I used to do when I was a runner. That feeling of being warm all over except for the tip of your nose;

that's the sweetest.

When you think of everyone in the city hibernating indoors, and you're outside beating the elements, that's totally satisfying. It's important in this province to go with it. The weather is cold. It can be miserable, or it can be great if you want it to be.

Q: Would you make any changes to the oval?

A: Not really. I think they do a really good job out there. It's a city-run facility, and the guys who maintain the place are always friendly. They're really good about flooding it. It seems like they think it on the hour sometimes. It's great.

Q: Does it get used enough by the general public?

A: You know, I don't think it does. A lot of my friends, it would never occur to them to go out there to skate. People would go to the Recreationplex, or maybe a hockey rink, but a lot of people just think of the oval as the place the speed skating club goes to work out.

It is sometimes busy but often I'll be the only one there, especially in the morning.

The Clarence Downey Speed Skating Oval is part of Gordie Howe Park, located at the intersection of Shady Street and Avenue K South.

ON THE COVER

It's hard for me to allow the time for political process when I see on a day-to-day basis what my kids go through. — *Chandra McIvor*

#CHANDRA MCIVOR

Defender of gay, lesbian and transgender students



Chandra McIvor, the department head of youth development and education at the Avenue Community Centre, in the G56 classroom at Walter Mundy Collegiate.

PHOTO BY MICHELLE BORG

By Arielle Zett

About a dozen young people are giggling and talking loudly while holding smartphones, hunched over at the Avenue Community Centre (ACC). Some are armed with using bags, some are sitting cross-legged on the floor, some are sitting cross-legged on the floor.

It's Wednesday night, and at ACC, that

means it's Rainbow Coffee. The weekly event is an activity night for gender and sexuality diverse youth and their allies and friends. There's a comfortable feeling walking in, which is exactly how Chandra McIvor wants it.

Coming up was a potluck and the week after, a night of skating. Sometimes, they just hang out and watch movies, but it doesn't

matter what they're doing — they look forward to Wednesday nights all week.

McIvor is the department head of youth development and education at ACC, a position that she's held for just over a year. Alicia Smith, a student at Nuhou Collegiate, was concerned when McIvor came into the position last September, thinking no one could replace who they had before.

"When she came, she set a new standard. She made it such an awesome place to be," Smith said. While programming is a big part of the job McIvor does, she spends much of her time advocating for safe spaces and transgender education, not just for the group of youth she sees every Wednesday night, she also consistently calls "her kids" but for all students across the province.

As a teacher, sometimes it's hard to navigate these situations and I wanted to move outside those limitations and start breaking them down for those still in school — *McIvor*



Online posters line the walls in the GSA classroom at Walter Murray College in ... (PHOTO BY PHOTOFEST) MARCH 11, 2013

Chloe Moore, like Ruth, is one of the students McIvor refers to as her "core group." The youth she most commonly takes to conferences and around the province to meet with politicians and government officials. With Chance Brink and Bailey Lindsay McIvor ensures their voices are heard, either through her work with safe and inclusive schedules with the provincial government.

"Whenever she goes anywhere, I know for a fact she's going to mention Cofix and how awesome we are," Moore said.

She's always looking for our input because she wants to know what we have to say," she added. "I feel so good about that because there are a lot of people who say to me: tell me what you want changed and I will help you get there."

When Saskatoon MLA Jennifer Campbell began consultations for the government's anti-bullying strategy, McIvor sprung into action. First, ensuring that her kids had the opportunity to meet with Campbell and Ministry of Education officials, but also ensuring they were prepared and knowledgeable for consultation with Campbell. She used the input and experiences of youth she works with daily to say what she felt was needed to help keep them safe from bullying and safe in their schools.

Continued on Page 8

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My wonderful, incredible, inspiring youth are not going to put this together, but I can. I can summarize what I've heard from them and I can bring it to a provincial political level. That was my intent. — McIvor



Churchill McIvor (lying down) with the Rainbow Coffee group at the Metcalf skating rink. Back row: Sana Hossain, Chantia Brown, Bailey Lindsay, Lynn Gerbelle. Front row: Meghan Wadell, Angela Pitt, Ashley Duran, Chantia Brown, George McIvor, Alana Roth, Zaria Sawyer. Photo by Michelle Smith

"More than anything, I'm a mess and a person to give their 'mess credit' and empathy to be heard," said McIvor. "My wonderful, incredible, inspiring youth are not going to put this together but I can. I can summarize what I've heard from them and I can bring it to a provincial political level. That was my intent."

Her intention was achieved. At the release of the anti-bullying strategy in November, Congress identified McIvor as a consultation partner

And while none of McIvor's specific recommendations made the report, she's optimistic about what's to come, though she does wish it would come faster.

"It's hard for me to allow the time for political games when I see on a day to day basis what my kids go through," she said.

She's been in touch with Ministry of Education officials since the release of the strategy and that non-reaction makes her hopeful about how some of her recommendations

can be implemented.

"There should be a provincial provision of professional development on gender and sexual diversity in all schools—public, Catholic, separate, independent (government) can make that call. You are moving public funding, you have to do this," she said.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

As a political science student, McIvor went on a development trip

to the Dominican Republic to do charity work, but she quickly realized it wasn't what she thought it would be.

Instead of doing work from an office behind a computer desk, she ended a nursing school if they needed help. When they told her she did, she left her original placement and stayed in the Dominican Republic for a year working at the school.

The experience instilled a love of teaching in McIvor and she realized that education was one of the most

important parts of development work.

"I truly believe that most of the world's problems can be solved with better education and more social consciousness," she said.

When she returned to Canada, she transferred to the education program at McGill University in Montreal. For her internships she focused on placements at outreach and last chance schools. Many students had criminal histories, gang relationships or were pregnant.

She's always looking for our input because she wants to know what we have to say. I feel so good about that because there isn't a lot of people who say to me 'tell me what you want changed and I will help you get there' - Charlene Moore

While school prepared her for lesson planning and car repairs, it did not prepare her for what she dealt with in her classrooms.

"Lesson plans fly out the window when you walk into the room and kids are expressing themselves based on race, or gang membership or sex groups," Moore said, adding it was then she realized that the learning her teachers didn't prepare her to deal with the social factors that can affect students.

"It baffled what it meant to be a teacher for me. It brought in a lot of consciousness for this people life teaching and asking: 'what do they need?'" she said.

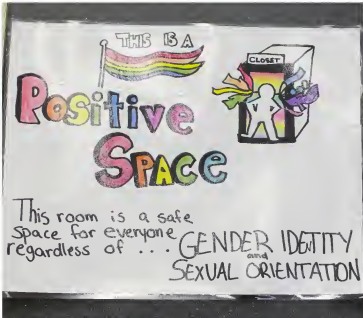
In one instance, Moore had a student who was biologically male but expressed in a few rare way something the student's parents were not comfortable with. Moore took the student's side, which caused tension with the teen's parents. The principal sided with the parents.

"As a teacher, sometimes it's hard to navigate these situations and I wanted to make sure these kids have and start breaking them down for those still in school," she said as her decision to move to the new teaching role of education.

Then the job at the Avenue Community Centres came. It was the perfect fit. Moore grew up in Saskatoon, first near Davidson, then Kamsack and finally in Weyburn where she graduated high school. She calls herself a prairie girl.

— the job brought her home. After finishing her education in Montreal, there were a few things that were difficult about moving back to Saskatchewan.

She realized that there was a huge difference in acceptance of gender and sexually diverse people. Particularly frustrating was the use of the phrase "that's so gay" and the



A positive space sign in the GSA classroom at Walter Murray Collegiate. PHOTOS PHOTO BY MICHELLE REED

it could end up in the "if word" (Bogart), she said.

With the Avenue Community Centre behind her, Moore was able to expand her own education and feels confident enough to challenge people when she hears something

discriminatory without being antagonistic, she said.

At the centre, Moore plans all the youth programming. When she started she updated existing curriculum and presented new material to educate the community and she worked

with the school's gay-straight alliance.

Now, the centre has expanded. She does professional development for the Saskatoon Public School Board, works programming for Saskatoon's greater and sexually diverse

youth, and has met multiple times with the Ministry of Education, representing the needs of the youth to the provincial government.

Still, she doesn't feel like she has all the answers. In fact, it's often the youth she works with

who teach her.

"I'm still learning and my kids will correct me and I will thank them every time," she said.

"I am who I am in this job because of them." continued on page 10

I'm still learning, and my kids will correct me and I will thank them every time. I am who I am in this job because of them. — McIvor

Education is at the heart of the work McIvor does, and she works closely with the Seabrook Public School Division staff and caring schools co-ordinator Pamela Goodwin McLeod.

Goodwin McLeod and the teachers and educators in the division call on McIvor to do professional development presentations and help them with supporting their gender and sexually diverse students on a case-by-case basis.

"I think every time I'm having a conversation with Chandra, I'm learning something new," Goodwin McLeod said in an interview. "She never makes you feel like you've asked a stupid question. She just helps you in that learning curve," she said.

McIvor is happy with the progress that the division has made to help the students. She is doing presentations at many of the schools in Seabrook, she also did a session with the school division's guidance counselors as well as with the principals and superintendents. Recently, McIvor invited the community to attend a presentation she gave to teachers on how to support a transsexual student at their school.

The division sent superintendents to her presentation in case there were any upcoming changes to help outline the policy and what they are doing.

"To me, that really is great support," McIvor said.

And the support isn't just lip service and presentations. Recently, Seabrook Elementary School converted two single staff classrooms to gender neutral, open to accommodate a transsexual student, said McIvor.

Teachers are constantly reaching out to her to help them with their gender and sexually diverse students and they are looking for the education on how exactly to do it, she said.

Brown's math teacher at Wilder Murray has begun to include gender and sexually diverse terms in his vocabulary. Roth and Moore and their principal has a lunch hour open under standing of the diversity which acts the bar for all of their teachers.

"After a presentation, I know that (my teachers) are going to be that much more accepting because now they have the understanding and the education," said Moore.

And the McIvor's work is still far her youth who keep her going. When she has a bad day she is reminded that everything she fights for is for them.

"I feel like I'm there to be it," McIvor said. "There is no doubt in my mind about that because I feel it. When those one small moments come, when it's making a difference, there's no doubt."



Chandra Bess and Chandra McIvor skate with the Rainbow Duffer group at the Mountain skating rink. Roberts photo by MICHAEL ROSE.

Gender and sexual diversity terminology

GENDER IDENTITY: An individual's personal knowledge of their gender which can be male, female, neither or both and may or may not be the same as their biological sex.

TRANSSEXUAL: How an individual, externally, communicates femininity or masculinity, neither or both. This may be the same or different from one's biological sex, and/or gender identity.

CIS-GENDER: Refers to an individual whose biological sex at birth is the same as their gender identity.

TRANSFEMININE: An umbrella term to describe anyone whose gender identity is not the same as their biological sex at birth.

TRANSGENDER: Transgender individuals who choose to "transition" their physical bodies to align with their gender identity.

BIBESQUE: Individuals who are attracted to both men and women.

PANSEXUAL: Individuals who are attracted to people for personality rather than appearance or gender.

ASEXUAL: Individuals who lack interest in, or desire for sex. Asexuals may still be romantically attracted to others.

NEXT WEEK: What do you think of vaccinations? Email Bridges@thestarphoenix.com

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PARENT TO PARENT

Each week *Bridges*, in connection with *SaskatoonMoms.com*, gathers advice from parents to share with other moms and dads. This week we asked:

How involved are you in your children's school life?



"We're involved as a family. If the school needs help, I would always volunteer. If my child struggles with anything, I'm extremely involved. We only get one shot at making the difference, so I like to make it a good one. The teachers aren't able to do it all themselves; it's a two-way work!"
—Allysa Genschlecht

"I have always believed my children's school life is an extension of home. Therefore, I have always been involved in their school lives. From kindergarten all the way through high school, from helping with arts and crafts or driving them somewhere, all the way up to parent-teacher nights on high school music trips. Every experience provided me a good opportunity to learn more

about my children and their friends. I highly recommend all parents being involved as much as they can." —Judy S.

"I am very involved with my children's school life in terms of communication with the teacher and participating in school fundraisers etc. Being a teacher myself, it is sometimes hard to be as involved as I would like since I have commitments at my school as well." —Michelle Giesels

"As we both work during the day, we are only involved with school activities, such as school conferences, assemblies, concerts. Try to find out what they do everyday and will help with homework when sent home." —Carla Contreras

Authentic Amish Cooking



Roast Beef & Gravy

- 3 lbs. Chuck Roast
- 2 cups Cream of Mushroom Soup
- 7 Hanger 1 Beef Base
- 1 T. Onion Salt
- 1 Can Hot Water
- 1 T. Liquid Smoke, optional

Put up roast in 3-4" chunks. Sprinkle with onion salt. In a bowl, mix soup, beef base (kitchen in hot water), water and liquid smoke. Spread mixture over meat for 3 hours. The slower you cook it the more tender it will be. If you put it too fast, you can get pulled, roasted potatoes in the last hour. They will absorb the excess salt.



Spice Cake

- 2 C. White Sugar
- 2 Eggs
- 1 T. Cinnamon
- 1 T. Salt
- 1/2 T. Cloves
- 2 T. Baking Powder
- 1 C. Water
- 1/4 C. Oil
- 3 C. Flour
- 1 T. Baking Soda

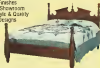


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CITY NEWS

I AM STRONGER

Campaign wards off bullying at high school



The I am stronger anti-bullying campaign is full swing at Natuna Collegiate. Students took part in showing the school with positive messages. (NATUNA PHOTO BY MICHAEL HIRSH)

By Angelina Iritucci

"Don't be afraid to be yourself!"

"You took the time to go to school and I took the time to be kind and good!"

"Believe in you."

"Kindness is everything."

These are some of the kind words that were posted on lockers around Natuna Collegiate about a month ago. The group of about 10 students who wrote the phrases are part of *SkoolTel's* *I am Stronger* anti-bullying campaign — a social movement to stop bullying with a focus on cyber bullying.

So far, nearly 600 people pledged their support to stop bullying on the *I am Stronger* website, where many also shared their experiences with bullying. Posts include stories of being bullied, being adults and youth witnessing bullying, intervening and being bullied themselves.

"All *SkoolTel* we really believe that as a provider of devices that enable cyber bullying, that it's a good initiative for us to support the success of them," says Michelle Ingot, director of external communications at *SkoolTel*.

The campaign was launched about a year ago and so far, Natuna Collegiate is the only school in the pro-

vince with an *I am Stronger* co-ordinator, but the campaign is still growing, explains Ingot. Now, there is someone within the school who cannot only speak about the campaign, but can build a network of support and understanding of those who are experiencing bullying.

Co-ordinator Stephanie Vaseau leads a group of about 10 to 15 students who have pledged their support in working to end bullying at the school. When Vaseau first started in April, she did a survey of students who have been cyberbullied or said that it is a problem and couldn't believe the number of students who answered yes.

We know that bullying is a prob-

lem that's not going to be solved overnight, so we're taking baby steps to try and stop bullying and (let people know) that it's not tolerated here," Vaseau says.

If someone does feel victimized, Vaseau and her team want that person to communicate with the group — they accept everyone no matter what, and are there for support and advice. Vaseau adds the focus isn't just on students but the town wants to reach parents and staff too to deal with bullying.

Another part of their efforts on dealing with community work, having meetings and doing random acts of kindness, like the post-it notes.

Grade 10 student Jada Colquhoun, 17, joined the group because she says she believes in everything the *am* gets stands for. She's consistently trying to put a smile on the faces of those around her and in the future she hopes to work with youth.

Before it was part of the program, I didn't know how to help people and now we get to voice our opinions," Colquhoun says. "There is so much bullying going on... and that's what *I am Stronger* is here for. For people to know that we have their back and we will stand up for them and help through it."

alex@postcolonial.com/angelahirsh@

FASHION

Have an outfit you've styled for an upcoming event?
Send a photo to bridges@thestarphoenix.com

#SASKATCHEWAN FASHION

Philippe Leclerc: Brightness and contrast

By Ashley Martin

Maybe it has to do with his advertising background, but Philippe Leclerc's wardrobe is pretty in your face.

He is not one to default to blue and grey like many men do. "Don't be afraid of colour," is his mantra.

Leclerc, who works in interactive communications for the City of Regina, has long consented to be a well-dressed professional.

Working in Asia for five years in Hong Kong and Singapore, he learned fashion practically by osmosis. Each day he dreads by Coach, Prada, Smith and Gucci, as the designers head shops in Leclerc's office tower.

Simple observation opened his eyes to the different styles of the continent — quite the change from his first foray into fashion as a teenager, when his Ontario hometown lost its first Le Chatelier.

"There's quite a bit more out there that we don't normally get exposed to. It was just interesting to see the way different silhouettes, textures and different colour combinations and use patterns," said Leclerc, who tends to shop online, and whose sartorial choices contrast.

Sometimes he goes for themes, matching his socks to his shirt, but most times he mixes it up like today.

"I've got stripes. I've got solids. I've got paisley," he said. "It's more about expression than necessarily a true match because I feel that if you're confident enough to wear it, then that makes it match."

1. GLASSES: Jean Reno from *Pulp Fiction*

The iconic plastic, half-ported light off the side!" said Leclerc. "I also like the shape as well. They're not quite circles."

2. SHIRT: Robert Graham

Tulle. Orange. "Some of the fibres they're using are really quite vibrant and quite also."

3. BELT: Ben Sherman

4. BRACELETT: This is a bit of a New Years Revolution

First, it tracks the amount of steps you take in a day."

5. PANTS: "Fusing men's pants that are all just grey or navy with just a stripe on my part. I know these are just grey with a wide downcut, but they're something a little different."

6. SHOES: John Fluevog

"These shoes are amazingly comfortable."



Philippe Leclerc is not afraid to mix and match colours. *Heidi's Photo by Nina Sokoloff*

MUSIC

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DUSTAN AND CARRIE HLADY

A document of their shared lives

By Sean Trembath

When a couple says they have an album that tells the story of their relationship, they're usually talking about photos. Dustin and Carrie Hlady's album comes out of your speakers.

"We and Carrie's whole life together has been chronicled with these songs," says Dustin of Post Party Depression, the first record by Moose Jaw's *Primal Friend*, the band they've fronted since 2006.

Post Party Depression is 11 tracks of quirky indie rock anchored by Hlady's unusual, guttural and thoughtful lyrics. Endowed by Carrie's vocal harmonies and peppered with punk rock sensibility.

The album was recorded just by him over four years. In that time the two broke up, lived in different cities, got back together, got married and, perhaps most importantly, had two children.

"It makes it a lot harder to get out and do it," says Carrie of parenthood's effect on band life.

"We don't live in the same city as our friends, so there's always that element of reaching across the kids are taken care of before we go out and pretend we're rock stars."

The seed for *Primal Friend* was planted in Dustin's living room while the two were still, actually, just friends. She was getting herself ready to go out, Dustin picked up his guitar and started playing some of his songs.

"I couldn't believe someone I knew wrote songs that good," she says.

He gave her three tracks he had recorded and invited her to write some harmonies. The two started playing open mics



Carrie and Dustin Hlady of Moose Jaw-based band *Primal Friend* tell their relationship stories on their new album *Post Party Depression*. SUBMITTED PHOTO

and friends' living rooms.

They talk about the band and their relationship in an unassuming, earnest, developing-alongside each other. The band's name is a playful nod to the questions they would get about their relationship status. On their first real date they made T-shirts with the name on them.

Their first actual gig came when a friend of Dustin's had to drop out of a slot at a music festival in Creek

Primal Friend stopped up, recruited some other friends to fill out the band and went for it.

Rough then, they've played shows and recorded with many different musicians from the Moose Jaw scene. They've had as many as 10 people contribute to a single gig. Their current lineup includes Brian Capstick on bass and Matt Prosser on drums and other instruments.

Playing with so many dif-

ferent musicians has helped not just the live show, but also Dustin's songwriting process.

"I just try to surround myself with great musicians. I just kind of write pretty simple songs on guitar, and then meet with the band, and I take every suggestion," he says.

The recording schedule for *Post Party Depression* was dictated by everything else going on in the young family's life: the babies and a stay-at-

home dad. Funds for recording were always easy to come by.

"We've been a long history of love that we've done kind of whenever we've had money to do it. We've got a few hundred dollars extra? Let's record another song," says Carrie.

The completed product is available online at Bandcamp. The next thing they're moving for is a proper pressing of this record.

After that they'll start

working on the next one, says Dustin. Although, their lives are busy and music isn't always the focus. It will always be an important part of how they live.

"I personally think every one should be in a band. You can learn those chords and write songs. It's a great way to express yourself, and it's a great way to record your life," he says.

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READ MY BOOK

LOCAL AUTHORS: Writers tell us what makes their book worth reading

#ELAINE WILL

Graphic novel depicts struggle with mental illness

Hi, I'm Elaine. I've been drawing comics and making other art since I was five years old, and I've struggled with depression and social anxiety since I was 15. In 2002, I self-published my first comic book. Later that same year, I was fired, a severe mental breakdown.

I was exhausted of this for quite some time. Whenever I'm upset about something, I draw out my frustrations. I realized that I would have to draw something



Elaine Will

about my experience, and a graphic novel seemed a good fit. It took four years, but I finally completed *Look Straight Ahead*, a story about a character who goes through many of the same things I went through.

Jeremy Knowles is 17 years old and lives in a makeshift Canadian town. He is a social outcast at school, plagued by bullies, and is also in love with a girl who doesn't know he exists. He is constantly nervous and has trouble sleeping at night. Eventually, this catches up with him and the book of sleep begins to cause powerful delusions.

Jeremy is hospitalized multiple times as he and his parents struggle to understand what's happening to him. In addition to believing that he

is a being of great power who must save the world through his art, he is also constantly being followed by a demon, who criticizes his every action. All this, plus the side effects of medication and the frustrations of the mental health system.

Like me, Jeremy is also an artist — and eventually draws himself back to health.

I'm told by friends, colleagues and reviewers alike that *Look Straight Ahead* is a very powerful story. I once said that if I could help even one person with this book, I would have done my job. I've heard from a number of online readers that say the comic has indeed helped them with their own struggles.

One last word about the title:

"*Look Straight Ahead*" refers to a technique I use to combat anxiety — when I'm in a large crowd or any other situation, where I don't want to make eye contact with anyone, I look straight ahead. But it also refers to "looking straight ahead" to the future — not dwelling on past regrets.

Creating this book was a very self-empowering and enthusiastic experience, and I'm sure it won't be the last book I do on the subject!

Look Straight Ahead is currently available from both Comic Readers (Saskatoon) in Regina, to Saskatoon's available at McNally Robinson, 8th Street Books & Comics, United City Collector's Edge and Amazing Stories.





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After leaving office she established her legacy, the Michaille Jean Foundation (TMJF). The Foundation works with business leaders, government, private and civic leaders to empower youth to use their talents to enhance Canada's communities.

9th Prime Minister Jean's name is inscribed in Canada and internationally in addition to her Foundation after her name was appointed UNESCO's Special Envoy for Haiti where she spearheads a national effort to rebuild the education system and protect culture and heritage in Haiti.



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ON THE SCENE

LUGO 2014

LUGO one of the hot events on the Seasidecon scene, drew a sold-out crowd to the Mendel Art Gallery on Jan. 11.

LUGO featured a diverse line-up of live music, film, visual art, the arts, poetry, science, media, delicious drinks, gourmet food and contemporary dance. Funds raised from this event go toward Mendel Art Gallery exhibitions and programs.

1. **Ellen Roth Miller, Maygen Kuschy and Tyler Dunn**

2. **Ashley Mitchell and Jessica Hirsch**

3. **Lizette Payne and Derek Olson**

4. **David Saunders and Kaitlyn Hefner**

5. **Kevin Kordecki, Katrina Gorman and Brandon Mack**

6. **Kent and Cassie Gable**

7. **Renee Sorriaga and Shacey McPeak**

BRIDGES PHOTOS BY DEREK MORTENSEN



EVENTS

MUSIC

Wednesday, Jan. 15

Pink
Credit Union Center,
3012 Thatcher Ave

Apollo Cruz
Buds on Broadway,
517 Broadway Ave

The Lovers w/ Body Roll
Amigos Cantina,
632 10th St. E.

Josh Salmer
Rock-Crack Tap & Grill,
103-1039 McDermott Dr

Thursday, Jan. 16

Kenneth Ericksen's Pan Fried Blues
Crackers Restaurant & Lounge
1-322 Pinehouse Dr

Apollo Cruz
Buds on Broadway,
517 Broadway Ave

Rock's Katia & Catherine MacLellan
The Basement,
202 Fourth Ave. N

Friday, Jan. 17

Johnny Davis
Buds on Broadway,
517 Broadway Ave

Harjo Friday w/ Brett Balon
Rock's Katia & Catherine MacLellan
The Basement,
202 Fourth Ave. N

Jackie McInnis
3300 Eighth St. E.

Dale's & Brother Kings
Fairfield Senior Citizens' Center,
153 Fairmont Ct

Ericksen
Tom Town Tavern,
3330 Fairlight Dr



Pink will perform at Credit Union Center on Wednesday.

Wood on Wheels w/ Sheryl Hardy
Amigos Cantina,
632 10th St. E.

Evening Shift
Stein's Place,
104-105 10th St. E.

Saturday, Jan. 18

Seven Strait
Buds on Broadway,
517 Broadway Ave

Gutter Series: The Dox
Boomerbox Theater
The Basement,
202 Fourth Ave. N

Lex Berrington
Autana Lounge,
301 10th St. E.

Howlin' High Night
Highlights
Highlights Kings
Downtown Legion,
604 Spadina Creek St.

No Harry Trio
McInnis Hall,
3300 Eighth St. E.

J. Cole
Orleans Island Centre,
341 Second Ave. S.

Comments and Concerns w/ Paddy & Ann, Mike Westwood and Chris Siege
Amigos Cantina,
632 10th St. E.

Evening Shift
Stein's Place,
104-105 10th St. E.

Sunday, Jan. 19

Lex Berrington
Autana Lounge,
301 10th St. E.

Monday, Jan. 20

Blue Swell
TCU Place,
33 22nd St. E.

Tuesday, Jan. 21

Reading Fiction
Buds on Broadway,
517 Broadway Ave

ART

Mandal Art Gallery
Winter exhibition again Jan. 24 at 550 Spadina Creek. Contemporary Drawings from the National Gallery of Canada, Three Native Walls of Introspection and Cabinets of Curiosity and The Child.

Jan. 24 at 7 p.m., opening reception at 6 p.m. Free week-making workshop Jan. 26, 2 p.m. Registration continues for Adult Drawing Studios in February and March. Visit www.mandal.ca.

Pinette Star Gallery
Jan. 16 until Feb. 28 at 136 Eighth St. E. Out the Blue.

What happens when inspiration strikes? Works by gallery artists and painters. Opening reception Jan. 16, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

SCVP Gallery
Jan. 24 at 253 Third Ave. S. Secret Places by Anne Marie Peters. Appropriately by Kevin Weisgraber and Anne Marie Peters. Jan. 27 until Feb. 16. An smile and newish display their artwork together.

Gallery on Third, Watrous
Jan. 25 at 152 Third Ave. E. Watrous Escape, a group

show by Watrous and area artists.

Meika Art Fair
Until Jan. 26 at 411 Herald St. Photography by David Leewick, on sale and display.

Watrous Library
Through January in Watrous, Saskatchewan, at the season.

Perkins Centre
Through January at 180 Grosvenor Centre. Art in the Centre January show. Works from Mayfair Artists.

Handmade House Show
Until Feb. 1 at 710 Broadway Ave. Contemporary, Abstract, Timeless. Scenics and Shells by the Tackle Art Group.

Wild Gallery
Until Feb. 2 at 1106 Eighth St. E. Owners' Show. Works by Melissa Friesenberger, Neil Shaw and Michael Peterson.

St. Thomas More Gallery
Until Feb. 2 at 1437 College St. Ink Slab by Monique Nason. Pressing Moments, until Feb. 20. New works by Ink Slab Pressmakers.

The Gallery Art Placement
Until Feb. 13 at 228 Third Ave. S. New Artists. New works by artist placement. Robert Christie, Louise Cook, Greg Wandy, Chris Walker, David Purdy, Catherine Perreault and Larve Russell.

Artistry Gallery
Until Feb. 22 at 613 Broadway Ave. Put a Wedge in it by Michael Housak. New works inspired by artist's inquiry. Meets with mental working.

Black Spruce Gallery
Open through the winter at Northside Artworks on Highway 2. After Glow, a new show.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Story Circle for Adults
Jan. 17, 7:30 p.m., at the Umberton Centre, 213 Second St. E. Hosted by the Saskatoon Storytelling Guild. The theme is winter tales. Bring a story or some to listen. Admission is free and donations are accepted. Potluck snacks welcomed.

What you need to know to plan your week.
Send events to bridges@thestarphoenix.com

The Music of Pink Floyd: The Wall & Dark Side of the Moon
Jan. 18, 7:30 p.m., at TCU Place. The Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra's Canvas Rock Series is back and bend over to Classics. With conductor Matthew Poudel.

Douglas Hospice Society's Volunteer Training Program
Starts Jan. 18. Thirty hours of in-depth training over three weekends. Call 306-249-5254 or email grahnhospice.org.

Walter Thieson Tribute Concert
Jan. 18, 7 p.m., at First Methodist Church, 418 Quasimodo. Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers will accept donations to the Walter Thieson Scholarship Fund.

Songs and Music to Warm the Heart
Jan. 18, 7 p.m., at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 1602 Louise Ave. An evening of music. With coffee and refreshments to follow. This event is free. For information call 306-155-5187.

Royal Winnipeg Ballet's Romeo & Juliet
Jan. 18, 7:30 p.m., at TCU Place. Shakespeare's beloved star-crossed romance is a timeless and magical masterpiece. Get in Prokofiev's score, against a backdrop of setting in 18th-century Vienna.

THEATRE

Anton Chekhov's The Cherry Orchard
Runs Thursdays to Sundays until Jan. 19, 8 p.m., at The Refinery, 608 South Ave. Presented by Live Five Live Five Independent Theatre and produced by Theatre North. An antiseptic family returns to their home to face hard choices and an uncertain future.

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GARDENING

ALL AMERICA SELECTIONS

Presenting the top flowers for 2014

By Eri Svendsen

One of my annual (or should I say perennial) New Year's resolutions is to try at least one recently introduced plant. There are many to choose from, so the problem becomes strict criteria: I am confident it will grow well in my garden. And since new introductions are, well, new there's usually little empirical information on performance. However one reliable source is the All America Selections (AAS) organization (www.allameraselections.org).

AAS is an independent, non-profit organization that evaluates new, untested varieties in test gardens in geographically diverse locations around the United States and Canada. AAS winners must be a significant improvement over similar, existing cultivars in terms of uniformity of bloom or harvest, disease or pest tolerance, novel color or flower shape, flower form, total yield, length of harvest and overall performance. In the past only cultivars that performed well at all sites were crowned winners, whether they were perennials, annuals or vegetables. But that meant an omission: some plants that underperformed in a few locations (e.g. tender perennials), but were champions elsewhere were passed over. During their 60 years, AAS has regularly updated their evaluation criteria, and this year they have added the category "regional winner" to their lineup of champions.

Last year fall, they announced their four winning flower cultivars for 2014.

Gauche Sparkle White (Gauche hybrid) produces masses of delicate white, touched with pink flowers on slender, elegant stems, 30-34 inches tall (30-40 cm). It has best bloom time, it is new to its best advantage (it fell out as a massed planting (border) or in large containers with other flowers. With excellent heat drought and wind tolerance, Sparkle White will continue to delight you throughout August until the first



Sparkle Sunflower. Photo: Courtesy AAS



Sparkle White Gauche

fruits of late fall. Even though it is a tender perennial (zone 6), it will perform well as an annual here on the Prairies.

Flowering heads and leafy stems love perennials. **Ambercup Red** (Perennial herbaceous) The large, tubular flowers (red) with white throat) flowers are packed along sturdy stems (30-34 inches/30 cm) tall. They round out of short fir glaucous and are valued for the mid border. It blooms summer to frost and in heat tolerant, performing best in sunny

locations. This is a regional winner (Heartland, Mountain Southwest, West/Northwest) and a tender perennial (zone 10, but it should still work well here as an annual bedding plant in the ground or containers.

With the hundreds of cultivars already available, it's hard to imagine that new substantially improved perennials (Petunia x hybrid) could exist. But that is the case with **African Sunset**. In shades of orange, it handles temperatures similarly colored petals. A prolific, season long bloomer,



African Sunset Petunia



Ambercup Red Perennial

it starts putting on a show from late spring/early summer in flower. A low mounded spreader (12 inches tall x 20 inches wide/30 x 50 cm), it is equally at home in containers, hanging baskets

and in the front border.

Ranking out the 2014 winning flowers is **Sunshine Yellow** with **Black Center** sunflower (Helianthus annuus) It is an exceptional dwarf (compact) (no taller than 24 inches/30 cm) cultivar with 6 inch/15 cm diameter flowers, ideal for containers, window boxes and the mid border. Unlike sunflowers I am grown in the past, this one is repeat bloomer producing up to three waves of flowers, with some plants producing up to 30 blooms in a summer. Few directly in the ground when soil temperature is at least 65°F/18°C, expect first flowers within 30 to 40 days. To get earlier and more sustained blooms start indoors in mid April to plant out at the end of May/early June. Another regional winner this time for the Great Lakes region, but I see little reason why it wouldn't do well here. In fact, if I can find the seed, this is one of new plants I'll be trying this year.

This column is provided courtesy of the Saskatchewan Perennial Society (www.saskperennial.org/wordpress/)

Upcoming events

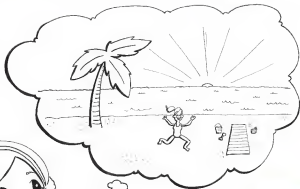
Jan. 30, 7:30 p.m. Let's Talk Turkey Set back and enjoy the Northshore, culture and history through Jacklyn Barber's eyes as she takes you on a virtual tour of her most treasured. **Stonemason Angeline Chubb**, 687 Dufferin Ave. (St. John's) Follow the signs to the backdoor and down the stairs to the basement. Hosted by the SSP Perennial Society. Free.

OUTSIDE THE LINES

Colouring contest

Each week, Stazhonic McKay creates a timely illustration meant to please kids of all ages.

Children can colour the page, have a picture taken with the finished product, and email it to bridges@thetwophotom.com. One winner will be chosen each week.



Last week's contest winner is Hunter Mayers. Thanks to everyone who submitted entries.



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ASK ELLIE

Complicated past relationships may hurt new one

Q During and after a messy break-up, I spent nine months without any intimacy. It drove me up the wall.

Four months later, I partnered in business with a guy and he became intimate. He knew I'd experienced two messy breakups—one a chaotic one, a messy guy—and I didn't want a relationship.

I knew he had a girlfriend whom he cared for, but she'd withdrawn in misery.

Our relationship is great and fun, but I want him to be honest with her because, as a victim of cheating, I know how damaging it'd be if she discovers him cheating.

I feel extremely guilty sometimes, knowing what I'm doing is wrong, though this relationship helped me regain self-confidence.

A: I'm sure many someone else, I cut off all intimacy with him, but we're still great friends.

It's wrong for me to ask him to tell his girlfriend about us? Our friendship might suffer, so I've met her and we might be seeing each other often.

Ask Ellie



I can live with the secret, but I know I'd feel that little pang of guilt. Also, would it be wrong if I didn't tell my guy about my friend with benefits? If I do, I should avoid saying who it is, so my friend will still be in the picture.

Multiple Awkward Connections: **A:** You're a juggler of complicated relationships, which I usually tell people to avoid.

Sometimes, you expect only a pang of guilt when others would be deeply awkward about exposure. You've found a smaller spirit in your "friend," who also understands tangled relationship knots.

Will you both be able to keep your

"secret" while he stays with his girlfriend and you get closer to someone else?

A: Who knows? But here's what observing human nature has shown me:

Your previous unhappy relationship has given you a sense of entitlement, which, if it persists, will lead you to trouble if you ever care deeply about someone for the long term.

Most men do NOT take well to stories about old lovers. Most ex-lovers do NOT want their girlfriends to know they cheated.

Most relationships thrive on commitment, loyalty, and five complex traits. Cool emotional attachment to this friend.

Q: This fellow and I got to know each other over the course of a year. I'm online and not posting about a relationship. This was developing into just getting to know each other.

After six months, I had a feeling he was holding something back. I've

ally liked him so I just let it coast and kept him somewhat at arm's length. It turned out this fact, he said he wanted some time to

I said that he'd better think about what he was doing, and that he was about to lose everything and have to start his adult life over. Meaning that, in a split, his wife would get half of everything he owned and he'd be out of it.

I was truly hurt. I didn't want to start a relationship that way and I had no desire to hurt another woman. Today, he's a good friend and thanks me whenever I see him, for saving his marriage and his life.

My Bad Luck

A: I disagree with your "bad" luck. I think you're fortunate to have been cautious in this relationship to treat your husband, and respond self-protectively.

Now avoid yourself: months/years of being his listening post, so he'll eventually feel guilty and leave on you, and perhaps never let him in.

Or he did finally divorce and you ended up with him as a second prize.

Q: I dated a girl I've known for awhile. We both agreed that we were everything each was looking for. She has great morals and values, with her priorities straight, which attracted me.

But a few days into the relationship, I started getting the cold shoulder. She said she wanted to do the best thing for her kid and that there was a lot of drama going on.

We said we should just be friends. I'd change rules down, so we can start our relationship off right.

A week later she hasn't talked to me, nor replied to texts. Should I keep waiting for her or just move on?

Hearing Heartbreak

A: (Gross, don't) end in a week. She has issues, perhaps her ex or her child's reaction to her dating. Her priorities are still releasable.

Take a break for two months and just avoid (not mind) texts from time to time.



Next week in BRIDGES

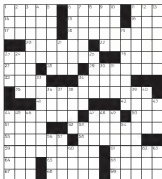
David Kaplan has been changing the musical culture in Saskatoon for more than 50 years

#CROSSWORD

NEW YORK TIMES Edited by Will Shortz

ACROSS

- 1 Snowmobile
 4 Pull together
 8 Right mouth
 14 Start to type?
 15 Nile Valley region
 16 One with a necked animal
 17 Classic Pompadour for short
 18 Start of a cycle about crumbly by 10 Avenue?
 20 Stern
 23 Old name, now (after)
 24 Body of 100
 25 Quote, part 2
 26 One on "Joker Judy"
 27 Home of the planet? Aster
 28 Cylindrical Aster
 29 In the classroom of a schoolbook
 32 Biped and his partner
 33 Miss Daisy's arboreal
 35 Quote, part 3
 41 Curious
 42 Level
 44 Japanese company brand
 47 Trapping letters



ACROSS BY WILL SHORTZ

DOWN

- 2 Commercial network
 31 "Aye-aye"
 32 Quote, part 4
 33 High-ranking Roman
 34 Aster
 35 With 20-letter speaker of this month's letter
 36 End of the quote
 41 Book
 44 "Stand!" cheer
 45 That "...know of"
 46 Not "..." character
 47 "Queen of LA," Jane
 48 Greenham
 49 Cross (climbing) rule for Stairmand
 1 Many "I'll" across members
 2 Pencil case
 3 Red light locale
 4 Automobile name maker
 5 End of academics
 20 Acres
 23 Not a chicken shape
 24 Is a daisy
 25 One for D.A.s
 26 Service to a panel
 11 Pledge
 12 Dish bowl
 13 Walk, also a line
 16 Deep perception
 21 Genetics prefix
 22 Smiley
 24 Coordinate in the game Snailhouse
 28 Suffix with a hairdress
 30 "I... be an actor?"
 31 Constitution
 32 "I... to a cowherd"
 34 Walk-up dance
 38 "...daisy"
 39 Be up
 39 "I... taking care"
 38 Not 10 Avenue
 40 On a dish-dish
 43 Pilates P
 44 Use the pictures in sheepherding
 48 "See pet?"
 49 What a taken home
 47 Lorry that during his playing role
 48 Ogress in the right hand of the king of chills
 49 Wedding time
 40 Port-wine (French) lent
 44 One's Greek counterpart
 46 Aqua Viva counterpart
 47 Lie
 48 Forecast
 49 Someone invisible
 43 Natch's answer to '15

JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU

Level: BRONZE

Fill in the blank cells with the numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 label. Use logic and arithmetic elimination to solve the puzzle.

The difficulty level ranges from Beginner (lowest) to Super to Gold (highest).



Solutions to the crossword puzzle and the Sudoku can be found on Page 23.

GEAR UP FOR WINTER



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SASKATCHEWAN 7000 TREND

Brian and Roberta Bain are farming for the future

By Jenn Sharp

It seems like a scene out of a science fiction movie. Rows after rows of sprouted seedlings grow in a controlled, indoor environment — enough to feed the entire city several times over.

This is reality for Brian Bain and his wife Roberta. The couple recently opened Saskatoon's first boutique vertical farming operation, located in a warehouse in the north urban district.

Roberta: Kaleidos grows micro greens meant for wholesale to restaurants and grocery stores in Saskatoon. The regular staples are peas — the biggest seller right now is a speckled pea and radish mix. Baby flowers, coriander leaves, arugula, basil and dill are also popular. The couple harvests and boxes them all made it into the rotation, too.

Eventually, the couple would like to expand and sell to other locations in Saskatchewan, but for now they're keeping shipments close to home.

At the moment, the microgreens are used mainly for garnishes on plates in a few trendy bistros in Saskatoon. If you're a bit psyched in Saskatoon, you're likely also a microgreen from Roberta. The Hub at Midway Inn and The Woods Alehouse will also have an Roberta salad soon.

Brian hopes to change the green perception — his product is ideal as a salad base and beyond.

"We're trying to come in and show that it's more than a garnish. It's so much more than that. It's super healthy — the nutritional value is higher than lettuce," he says.

The peas, for example, have a creditably high amount of fibre and Besides the healthier option of eating microgreens, it is a more eco-friendly, locally sourced food option, which takes much less land and resources to grow.

The numbers are shocking. In the tiny 588 square foot growing space, Brian can grow 3,000 pounds of food per month. That translates to 33 tons



Brian Bain and his wife Roberta recently opened EcoBee Gardens — Saskatoon's first boutique vertical farming operation. MICHAEL WONG

per year. The inputs for this are virtually nothing — the water is reused and it's all recirculated through humidifiers. A high efficiency fan system keeps the plants happy and the costs down.

"In every aspect, this was built around being environmentally friendly," says Brian, an avid gardener and horticulturalist.

Roberta is an urban farmer, with farming operations happening in Asia and elsewhere in Canada. But he says there is much more to come.

"This is my take on what I found feasible to start with. This is Eco-bee version 1.0. This is just the beginning. There's a huge market for it here. We're in Saskatchewan with no months of cold."

The indoor farm follows organic practices but must wait three years to become certified organic. Every-

thing from the cleaning solutions to the seed are certified organic and the facility is completely chemical free. Fertilizer is not used, only fish-based water, and there's no additives, just water and light.

The vertical farming process is a quick one.

After a week of growth, the shoots are cut at the base, leaving the root and seed. This is given to The Blade Farm, which feeds it to the pigs and poultry. The Bains trade this for meat raised on the old natural spaces located north of Saskatoon.

"We harvest on the evenings of Wednesdays and ship Thursday morning," explains Roberta. "Usually you'll have it in your grocery store within 10 hours of being cut."

You can purchase the microgreens at Duff's Organic Market, Strip Hill Coop and the Good Food Junction



located within Section 36 West. The microgreens will also be in the Good Food Box from CSFE, which is dis-

tributed every two weeks. jennsharp@thestarphoenix.com
thestar.com/bridges

WINE WORLD

THE BEACH HOUSE SAUVIGNON BLANC SEMILLON

Winter provides a built-in chiller for your pleasure

By James Romanow

You can beat the winter of your blue, but I rather appreciate it. I don't particularly like the cold, but I sure appreciate having a super chiller just outside my door.

You needn't bother with ice buckets or similar paraphernalia. Park the choppers in the snowbank while walking between the garage and the house, and by the time you have your seat off and the said corker is ready to go.

Unlike the rest of the world, I drink white wine all year round. Oh, I do drink more in the summer, but there are moments when your tongue just craves out for something more sugary, less acidic than red.

The taste of playing in a coastal region, among white drinkers, seems like out of a novel, the highly aromatic grapes like Riesling and Gewürztraminer, others more than Chardonnay can be quite fat, almost greasy, Sauvignon Blanc one best like a tongue-wagging What to do?

So as the Francophone has done for centuries' Drink blends. The Beach House is a wine named at pressing the whole world, and I recall say they largely succeed. They start with a very crisp South African Sauvignon Blanc, a wine I adore but can be too strong for many people. To that they add Semillon. The grape adds a silky



texture, and adds some of the softness of Sauvignon Blanc. The more I drink this combination, the more I like it.

This is a great thing to say, as I'm sure, with crisp but probably not acidic enough to stand up to lobster or butter. If you're a white wine drinker, it's a must.

The Beach House Sauvignon Blanc Semillon, South Africa, \$33.95 (***).

More great white wine deals on Monday's page or on Twitter @drbeacon.

Crossword/Sudoku answers

G	R	A	D	A	M	A	S	H	A	N
P	R	O	T	N	U	R	I	A	A	M
S	T	R	A	T	I	F	A	T	F	I
O	R	A	M	I	C	A	N	E	A	T
T	H	E	I	D	R	A	I	S	S	E
A	T	E	U	R	L	T	I	M	I	D
O	E	L	I							
N	O	T	A	B	S	R	D	T	R	I
M	I	N	O	L	A					
A	M	E	N							
S	G	T	A	I						
N	O	P	F	O	R	T				
C	N	A								
D	E	V	A	N	T	I	C			

1	7	6	4	2	8	9	3	5
5	4	2	3	9	1	6	7	8
3	8	9	5	7	6	1	4	2
4	6	3	7	8	5	2	9	1
7	2	5	1	6	9	3	8	4
8	9	1	2	4	3	5	6	7
6	5	4	8	3	2	7	1	9
9	1	8	6	5	7	4	2	3
2	3	7	9	1	4	8	5	6

Nuts About Nature At Beaver Creek Conservation Area



Hi kids! My name's Chip, and I live at Beaver Creek Conservation Area. Visit my backyard with your family and friends and enjoy some time away from the city. Snow a family Nature Activity Mat-Pack and hike a trail.

Guess what kids? You can send your question to me at the address below.

Dear Chip,

Are ravens scavengers or do they hunt for food?
Beanda



Dear Beanda,

What a great question! These majestic coal-black birds have both beauty and brains. In fact, they are among the smartest of all birds on the planet. Ravens also love to play and young birds are fond of playing games with sticks, repeatedly dropping them, then diving to catch them in mid-air. The species of raven found here in Saskatchewan is the Common Raven. Common Ravens are not picky about anything they can get hold of, unlike Rock Pigeons, eggs, grasshoppers, beetles, and even dung are all on the menu for Common Ravens. Because Common Ravens are smart, they are effective predators who will often use team-work to catch their prey. Hunting ravens have been observed working in pairs in isolated colonies, with one bird distracting an inebriated adult while the second raven dashes in to grab an unprotected egg or chick.

Send your questions to me at the address below, then watch Beanda for the answers.

Your pal, Chip

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West of Oshawa
Box 1000
1000 Highway #273
West of Oshawa
Box 1000
1000 Highway #273
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